

December 14, 2011

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Honorable Frank R. Wolf
241 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-4810

Dear Mr. Wolf:

Thank you for your commitment to peaceful solutions for the people of Sudan. We appreciate your efforts to focus needed attention on conditions in that country.

You may have heard reports that my law office has been engaged to provide lobbying services to the Republic of the Sudan. Those reports are incorrect. Although the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) has granted my law office a license, that license does not authorize any lobbying activities, and my office will engage in none. We will respond, however, to requests for information from members of Congress or the Obama Administration.

The license OFAC has granted authorizes the Law Office of Bart S. Fisher to provide the Embassy of the Republic of the Sudan with legal services that are permitted under section 538.505 of the Sudanese Sanctions Regulations. That section permits the following legal services:

- (1) [L]egal advice and counsel . . . in circumstances in which the benefit is otherwise received in Sudan, on the requirements of and compliance with the laws of any jurisdiction within the United States . . . ;
- (2) Representation of the Government of Sudan . . . when named as a defendant in or otherwise made a party to domestic U.S. legal, arbitration, or administrative proceedings;
- (3) Initiation of domestic U.S. legal, arbitration, or administrative proceedings in defense of property interests subject to U.S. jurisdiction of the Government of Sudan . . . ;
[and]
- (4) Representation of the Government of Sudan . . . before any federal agency with respect to the imposition, administration, or enforcement of U.S. sanctions against Sudan
. . . .

31 C.R.R. sec. 538.505(b) (emphasis added).

Under the license OFAC has granted, my law office is authorized to counsel the Embassy of the Government of the Sudan on the conditions Sudan must meet in order to reduce or eliminate the sanctions now imposed on that country, and on the conditions it must meet

before it can be removed from the State Department's list of State Sponsors of Terror. Satisfaction of these conditions would appear to be the very same goals advocated by you and others who are advocating peaceful solutions to problems in the Republic of the Sudan and in Southern Sudan.

By imposing the sanctions mentioned above, the United States has sought to punish and influence the Republic of Sudan. If those sanctions are continued in their current form, however, it is the people of South Sudan who will suffer disproportionately. Although South Sudan is now an independent country, its economy and infrastructure remain integrated with those of the Republic of Sudan. The peoples of the two countries need to travel and to transport food and other necessities across the borders. Sanctions have severely interfered with these activities. For example, due to sanctions on United States suppliers of spare parts, Sudan has only 19 active locomotives, while 17 years ago it had 131 locomotives. These shortages have increased already-existing problems in transporting food and needed supplies to refugee camps and other sites in Darfur, South Sudan, and other locations. These problems have in turn dramatically inflated the prices of food and other materials. They also have made excruciatingly difficult the return home of the South Sudanese people who took refuge in the north. Transportation by truck from the north to South Sudan can take a month during the times of the year when transportation by land is possible. During the rainy season, which may last 6 months a year, that transportation is virtually impossible.

I believe that we share concerns about problems faced by the Sudanese people, and that we have common goals. With these shared concerns and goals in mind, I would appreciate your suggestions about the ways in which we can best reach those goals. Please let me know if you have any questions about activities we are undertaking pursuant to the OFAC license mentioned above. I would be happy to respond to those questions.

Sincerely yours,

Bart S. Fisher
Managing Partner
Law Office of Bart S. Fisher

Attachment: OFAC License of the Law Office of Bart S. Fisher

cc: President Barack H. Obama
Secretary of State Hillary Clinton
Attorney General Eric Holder
Adam Szubin, Director, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury
Ali Hussain, Counselor, Embassy of the Republic of the Sudan